1	2	3	4
N.D.S. Zone/S. Zone	14·00	84	65·00
Rural*	9·00	27	12·00
NDMC	4·00	31	31·00
Cantonment	1·30	11	13·0
TOTAL:	88·80	510	435 00
Free Public Water-Hydrants .			25·00
		TOTAL	460·00

* Requirement of water calculated @ 30 GPCD inclusive of all uses.

Import of edible oil

1146. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE:
SHRI MAHENDRA PRASAD:

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to import edible oils to augment the supplies;

(b) if so, the details of the edible oils proposed to be imported indicating the cost and the sources of import;

(c) the supplies already received since January, 1991; and

(d) how it has affected the edible oil prices since January, 1991 month-wise?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI RAO BIRENDRA SINGH): (a) and (b) Government is already importing edible oils to bridge the gap between the demand and supply to maximum possible extent subject to availability of Foreign Exchange. Considering the sensitive nature of edible oil market, it is not desirable in the public interest to disclose the quantity, price or the place from where the edible oil imports would be made.

(c) and (d) Since 1st January, 1991 till 28th February, 1991, a quantity of 54,000 tonnes of Refined Palmolein has been imported. Though the imported oil supplied through PDS at reasonable prices act as a check on the rise in prices of indigenous edible oils, it is difficult to assess the exact impact.

Seminar on Agricuicural Development

1147. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE:
SHRI MAHENDRA PRASAD:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a national seminar on 'Development reconsidered' organised by the society for International Development was held on January 14, 1991 at Jaipur;

(b) if so, what observations and suggestions were made at the seminar, especially in regard to agricultural development, and the role of support prices system in relation to agricultural products in the matter; and

(c) what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI JAYANTILAL VIRCHANDBHAI SHAH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It was recommended that importance should be given to Animal Husbandry, Fishery, Forestry and Water Management to improve the agricultural production and productivity.

(c) Recommendations have been noted.

Housing Projects in the country

1148. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a very slow investment in the Housing Projects in the country;

(b) whether during the last four decades urban population in India has increased from about 380 million ot 770 million;

(c) whether during the same period investment in housing has increased from Rs. 1000 crores in the 5th plan to 30,000 crores in the Seventh plan period;

(d) to what extent Government propose to increase the investment in the Housing sector during the Eighth Five Year Plan; and

(e) whether the total investment in the country in the housing sector has steadily decreased from 34 per cent in the Fifth plan to just 9 per cent in the Seventh plan?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DAULAT RAM SARAN): (a) and (e) The total public and private sector investment in Housing has recorded progressive increase in absolute monetary terms over the successive five year plan periods. However in terms of the percentage of housing investment to total investment in the economy, there has been a decline from 34 per cent in the First Plan (Not Fifth Plan) to 9 per cent in the Seventh Plan.

(b) No, Sir. The estimated total urban population 1981 was about 180 million, and precise figures will be available for 1991 only after completion of 1991 Census operation.

(c) The investment in housing in public and private sector is estimated to have gone up from Rs. 1150 crores in the First Plan to Rs. 31458 crores in the Seventh Plan.

(d) Investment in housing sector during the 8th Plan is yet to be finalised.

Shortage of diesel for agriculture sector

1149. DR. ABRAR AHMED:
KUMARI ALIA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any steps this year to provide diesel to the farmers for agricultural purposes; if so, what are the details of the steps taken in this regard;

(d) what is the likely impact of the shortage of diesel on the agricultural production and also on movement of foodgrains this year and in what manner this shortage would be made good; and

(c) what is the percentage of farmers in the country who use diesel for agricultural purposes and what measures are being taken by Government to ensure adequate supply of diesel in future also to the farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI JAYANTILAL VIRCHNDBHAI SHAH). (a) to (c) Farmers use diesel mainly for operating tractors, irrigation pumps and other power driven machines. Percentage of farmers owning and operating such machines has never been worked out, but is not likely to be large among the total number of farmers in the country. In view of the balance of payment constraints, certain restrictions were imposed in supply of High Speed Diesel (HSD) through retail outlets throughout the country with effect from 8-10-1990 and an 8 per cent cut was applied on supplies of HSD which was increased to 10 per cent from 1st November, 1990. State Governments complained about shortage of diesel and likely adverse impact on Rabi sowing, but no definite